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Irena Nikolova

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Date: December 1, 2004

Bullis et al.

Confirmation: 6159

Serial No. 09/409,940

Group Art Unit: 2123

Filed: September 30, 1999

Examiner: Ferris III, F.

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING HIERARCHICAL
SELF-CHECKING IN ASIC SIMULATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2100

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.